



STUDY CIRCLE

FOUNDED
JANUARY 27th, 1954

Founder:

P. T. SAUNDERS, F.R.P.S.L.

President:

E. V. TOEG

Vice-Presidents:

J. B. MARRIOTT, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P.

W. A. TOWNSEND, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P.

BULLETIN No. 117 JUNE 1983

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*Acting Hon.
Secretary :*

I. P. CHARD
48 Shrublands, Potters Par, Herts. EN6 2BW
Tel. Potters Par 54491

Hon. Treasurer :

STEPHEN PAPWORTH
Tir Nan Og, Pembroke Road, Manorbier,
Dyfed, SA 70 7SX.
Tel. Manorbier 482 433

Hon. Editor :

M. SHEPPARD
6 Copsleigh Close, Salfords, Surrey RH1 5BH
Tel. Redhill 63936

Hon. Librarian:

STEPHEN PAPWORTH
Tir Nan Og, Pembroke Road, Manorbier,
Dyfed, SA 70 7SX.

Committee :

**B. B. BENWELL, S. GOLDBLATT,
M. HAMILTON, M. R. WILSON**

Hon. Auditor :

A. J. BRANSTON, F.R.P.S.L.

OBJECTS

1. TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the **British West Indies** and in addition **BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS.**
2. TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
3. To loan books from Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear post both ways. List supplied on application.
4. To publicise 'wants'.
5. To furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.

MEMBERSHIP

is WORLD-WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be **advanced** or **new** collectors. The ANNUAL subscription, payable on 1st January each year is **£4.00** for members residing in the UK or Europe, or **£6.00** for members residing elsewhere in the world. The latter rate includes an element to cover airmail postage of the Bulletin and charges where the subscription is paid in non-sterling currency or by cheques drawn on foreign banks. Overseas members are requested to make payment by International Money Order in sterling or by sterling draft on a UK bank if possible. Cheques, IMO's and PO's are to be made payable to "B.W.I. Study Circle".

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE 29th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the British West Indies Study Circle held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday 23rd April 1983 at the Margaret Room of the Bonnington Hotel, Southampton Row WC1B 4BH.

The chair was taken by Mr. E.V.Toeg, the President, who extended a warm welcome to all.

Apologies for absence were received from: Messrs. Lewarn, Marriott and Townsend.

The minutes of the 28th Annual General Meeting were published in the June 1982 issue of the Circle's Quarterly Bulletin pp 23 et seq. These were taken as read and, with the approval of the meeting, were signed as correct by the Chairman.

Report of the Hon. Secretary.

This is my 12th report as Hon. Secretary of the Study Circle.

Memberships stands at present at about 379 members though some members are late in paying their subscriptions.

Some use was made of the "Opinions Service" this year.

Meetings of the Circle held during the year were attended as follows:

Saturday, 9th Oct 1982 2.00 p.m. at B.P.E. 14 members
 Thursday, 25th Nov 1982 6.00 p.m. at Chancery Lane 8 members
 Wednesday, 16th Feb 1983 6.00 p.m. at Chancery Lane 6 members
 Thursday, 24th Mar 1983 6.00 p.m. at Chancery Lane 12 members

We have reached a stage in the Circle's 29 years where all the members with large collections have displayed their collections to the Circle, some several times. This, of course, does not include those who are unable through age, illness or geographical distance to display their collections.

In this connection I have written to 41 members in the London and Home Counties area who do not display at or regularly attend meetings. So far only one member has been kind enough to indicate his willingness to display.

Unless members are willing to support meetings we must consider curtailing them on both the grounds of difficulty in organising them and cost of hiring rooms for poorly attended events.

Report of the Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

The end of year results are really most gratifying with an exceptional increase in the value of the Accumulated Fund. I must, however, point out that this result is mainly due to the publication of "BARBADOS POST OFFICE MARKINGS TO 1981" and ensuing sales of that book, and it can be seen that the increase of the Fund is only a little less than the value, at cost, of unsold copies.

The proportion of the Funds value which is held in stocks of publications has more than doubled during the year to 57.2%. This proportion is probably too high when considering that future sales volume is most likely to be at a much lower level. Sales of all our various publications must therefore be generated if the value of money invested is not to decline in real terms over the years.

As far as other activities are concerned the receipts from the Auction well exceeded my expectations and there is also a welcome increase in income from Opinion Fees. The Opinion Service is one which could, perhaps, be used more for it must represent excellent value for money when compared with other Expertising services.

Another major revenue source is that from advertising. Since the rates were last set costs of producing and distributing the Bulletin have risen by some 25% and will no doubt continue to rise. Although advertising income has matched this rise I cannot foresee any further increase unless there is either an increase in rates or (abominable thought) a compensating reduction in the main content of the Bulletin.

I would again make a plea to all members to pay their subscriptions before I need to send out reminders - a time consuming and expensive matter. I would also ask that they ensure the correct sum is remitted.

I do not expect to see a large growth in our fund during 1983 but we do have a very firm financial base on which to operate.

I am, of course, prepared to answer any questions which you may have concerning the Accounts as presented.

Report of the Hon. Auditor.

Mr. Alfred Branston reports that the Circle's accounts are in excellent order and that the method of presentation is exemplary.

Report of the Hon. Editor.

When I took over as editor of the bulletin in 1973 I little thought that in ten years time I would still be in the job.

It would seem that in organisations such as ours the terms redundancy and early retirement are unknown, but so long as you the members keep me well supplied with copy I am happy to continue. This brings me to the only other comments that I wish to make. Several major articles have recently been concluded and I am now looking for other works to fill the gap. The Bulletin requires a prodigious amount of copy during the course of a year, so please see what you can do.

Report of the Hon. Librarian

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

I intimated in my report last year that it looked as if 1983 would be a very good year for Library usage. The year has, in fact, been exceptional with 23 different members making 34 requests for some 83 items - these not including Auction Sale Catalogues - and as far as I can ascertain these are record figures. Long may they continue.

I have not made it a practise to advise borrowers where items requested are not available because they are already on loan. I could quite easily do so if they were to enclose a stamped addressed envelope for this purpose. Even where a request can be met immediately this would not be wasted as I could use it to notify the sending (as common practise) with a reduction of the postal charge to the borrower. This might save borrowers the worry of wondering what had happened and remove any need for them to repeat their request which is generally not necessary. This would have most relevance where requests are for the scrapbooks and the more popular Islands such as Jamaica and St. Vincent.

My main problem this year has been in packaging, both for my sendings and that used by borrowers to return items. Quite a few of the latter have been received in a damaged state although thankfully the contents have not suffered. But they may suffer in future. Cost of packaging is now quite high and averages over 30p per sending. Whilst I have been happy to meet this from my own pocket in the past it is now time that this aspect is given more serious attention. I hope shortly to introduce much more durable packaging which can be re-used time after time and if taken into use each borrower will be given specific advice concerning the use of these re-sealable and Post Office approved items.

I can also now offer a photo-copying service to members and will be pleased to advise details on request.

Although not the most perfect Librarian I trust you will still continue to make requests. On my part I will do the best I can to meet them.

Report of the Chairman of the Committee.

As there was nothing of great urgency for the Committee to consider, it was not thought necessary to hold a Meeting of the Committee last autumn when the Study Circle itself held a meeting at the Wembley Conference centre during the currency of the British Philatelic Exhibition.

However, there was a Meeting of the Committee on the same day as the Annual General Meeting of the Study Circle on Saturday, 23rd April, 1983. The Hon. Secretary has the task of arranging the Programme of Meetings each year and he indicated that despite writing to a number of members who had not shown their collections previously to the Study Circle, he had until only a few days ago obtained no positive response from anyone but he would continue to write to further members. Meetings of the Study Circle have now been held for many years and displays at such meetings have been maintained by a score or so of members. If meetings are to continue then new blood must come forward. There must surely be quite a number of members in the London area who could display and their collections do not have to be of International standard. How about those who have displayed at Stampex and the British Philatelic Exhibition coming forward to do their bit.

Another item on the agenda was the forthcoming Convention which it is hoped will surpass the last one held by the Study Circle. The Programme of Events will this year commence with a Sherry party which should give the Convention a flying start. The Committee members all feel that if you enjoyed the last Convention you should certainly enjoy this coming one.

Advertisements in the Bulletin also came in for discussion as there have been one or two problems arising in this connection during the year.

The Hon. Treasurer also raised the question of printing the List of Members at longer intervals than every two years on account of the printing cost and the Committee agreed that the List of Members would in future be printed every fifth year. Under any other business, a number of other matters were dealt with, including the appointment of Basil Benwell as Chairman of the Publications sub-Committee in place of the late Len Britnor.

Convention Announcement.

Mr. Toeg announced that arrangements had been made for a Convention to be held on 22nd October, 1983, at the Regent Hotel, Leamington. Full details will be published in the June 1983 Bulletin.

The co-ordinator will be Mr. M. Sheppard.

The Chief Steward will be Mr. D. W. Atkinson.

Volunteers are required to assist the Chief Steward and members approval table.

Mr. D. M. Nathan volunteered to assist on the approval table.

Election of Officers and Committee.

No nominations having been received and present officers being willing to continue in office, Mr. Toeg declared that the Officers and Committee were re-elected automatically en block.

Officers:

President	Mr. E. V. Toeg
Vice Presidents	Mr. J. B. Marriott
	Mr. W. A. Townsend
Hon. Secretary	Mr. I. P. Chard
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. S. Papworth
Hon. Editor	Mr. M. Sheppard
Hon. Librarian	Mr. S. Papworth

Committee:

Messrs. B. B. Benwell, S. Goldblatt, M. Hamilton, M. R. Wilson

New Member of Committee, Mr. B. W. Atkinson, was proposed by Mr. E. V. Toeg and seconded by Mr. S. Goldblatt.

Election of Hon. Auditor.

Mr. A. Branston is willing to continue as Hon. Auditor.

Proposed by: Mr. E. V. Toeg

Seconded by: Dr. D. Woolfson

Forthcoming Events.

Saturday, 22nd Oct 1983	Convention
Tuesday, 22nd Nov 1983 7.00 p.m.	Mr. Ruthven Ward St. Lucia
Thursday, 19th Jan 1984 6.00 p.m.	Bring, Buy, Swap, Display
Thursday, 22nd Mar 1984	Messrs. P.W.C. Burke & D.W. Atkinson
Saturday, 28th Apr 1984	A.G.M. Auction Sale

Mr. Vincent Duggleby suggested from the floor that meetings might be arranged to take place later and that this might encourage members to attend. A discussion followed and members indicated their preferences as follows:

No members for meetings at 5.00 p.m.

10 members for meetings at 6.00 p.m.

9 members for meetings at 7.00 p.m.

11 members for meetings on Saturday.

In view of the poll taken a meeting would be arranged for Tuesday, 22nd November, 1983, at 7.00 p.m. to accommodate members who could not attend at 6.00 p.m. Further investigations would be made in an effort to find a suitable and cheap venue for Saturday meetings.

Vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr. Chard proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Toeg for chairing the meeting and for his work for the Circle during the year. This was carried unanimously.

STUDY CIRCLE MEETINGS

May 1983

Dear Editor,

There was considerable debate at the annual meeting of the Study Circle over the dates, place and timing of the regular meetings of the Circle, which many felt should be more widely discussed by the members not present.

It is patently absurd that out of a total membership of several hundreds, a mere half dozen will turn up for a display that may have taken many weeks (or months) to prepare.

I am aware that the committee can only act positively if people say what they want, and what would induce them to support regular meetings in greater strength. Is it the time, the day or the fact that meetings are in Central London - often on a cold winter evening? Is it the style of the meetings that put people off and would an auction, an expertising session or a swap-shop liven things up? Are we really only interested in the specific country or countries within the West Indies that we collect? Would people be prepared to give up time at weekends to attend more ambitious but less frequent gatherings - say two per year? The conventions appear to be very popular and the annual meeting (with the auction) is well supported.

Maybe there just isn't a case at all for the small regular meetings in London in the context of a National Society, and money would be better spent developing specialists areas within the pages of the Bulletin. One thing is clear: the fewer people who attend meetings the less incentive there is to attend in future, still less go to the trouble of preparing a display.

I hope this letter will provoke some real feedback, so that our committee can respond - the last thing anyone wants is to let things drift along as they are.

Yours sincerely,

Vincent Duggleby.

May we have members views on the above letter. Your suggestions are welcome and will be published unless otherwise requested.

Editor

NOTES and QUERIES

BARBADOS

BARBADOS' POST OFFICES

When my friend, Tony Shepherd, was recently in Barbados on holiday, he asked me whether I had ever heard of the existence of a Post Office at Hothersal Turning, St. Michael. At the time I had never heard of it. Subsequently I have received several queries from philatelists about its existence so I decided to investigate the matter. At the time that Tony asked me, I was not aware that he had written an article on the Post Office (Issue No. 112, March 1982) in which this is mentioned, and even so, I did not have the article to which he refers, so that the matter could be resolved. For the past several months I have been doing research into the old records, and I have come across the document from which Tony has gathered his information. Tony has taken his from

the Official Gazette, while mine comes from the document (No. 8) laid in the House of Assembly on August 18, 1874 and contained in Appendix F of the Minutes of the House of Assembly for 1874-75. The article written by Tony is inaccurate, and I hope that he does not mind my correcting this for the benefit of all philatelists. Tony's article is based on the Post Office Report for 1873 made by Mr. Charles Tinling, the Colonial Postmaster. This Report commences as follows:

8. GENERAL POST OFFICE, 3rd August 1874.

His Excellency the Governor, and the Honourable Board of Council.

May it please your Excellency, and your Hon'ble Board.

I have the honor to submit this my Report on the working of the Post Office Department of this Island, for the year ended the 31st December 1873, and also respectfully to suggest certain alterations and improvements for facilitating the posting of letters, for enabling me to make a second delivery daily in the city, and for affording increased accommodation to the Public.

Under the heading "POST OFFICE", the Report goes on to state:

On the establishment of the Postal Department in this Island, they were eleven Post Offices, including the General Post Office in Bridgetown, and 33 Letter Receiving Houses. Since then no increase has been made to the number.

The Report goes on further:

At present there is only one delivery a day from the General Post Office. This delivery is not confined to the City, but includes the whole parish of St. Michael, and part of Christ Church. The time has arrived when there should be daily two deliveries at least in the City, morning and afternoon. To effect this, it will be necessary to sever the City from the rural part of St. Michael, and I would respectfully suggest that the delivery of the General Post Office should be confined to the City and St. Anns Garrison, and should take place morning and afternoon. In such case provision must be made for the rural part of St. Michael, and that part of Christ Church which was included in the General Post Office delivery, and I would ask your Excellency and your Honorable Board to permit me to establish two more Post Offices, one on the main road near Hanson, and having a circuit of delivery extending by Hanson, Kent, Adams Castle, Warners, Graeme Hall, Maxwell's Hill, the main road leading to Worthing, Cotton Coast Road, Hastings, across to Brittons, Highgate Road, the Pine, Government House Road, My Lord's Hill, main road from there Rouen, and Haggatt Hall; and the other on the main road near Hothersal's turning, and having a delivery extending over the remaining portion of the rural part of St. Michael.

This will entail an additional expenditure of £170 per annum, that is to say:-

2 Postmasters at £25 each	£ 50.00
6 Postmen, 3 to each Office at £20 each	<u>120.00</u>
	<u>£170.00</u>

In dealing with the 33 Letter Receiving Houses, he states:

These letter receiving houses are maintained at an annual cost of £165 per annum, but they do not afford to the Public sufficient accommodation and facility for the posting of letters, and I would, therefore, respectfully, but must urgently recommend the abolition of them, and the substitution in lieu thereof of Iron pillar letter-boxes, similar to those used in England. With this view I forward the map of Barbados with the locations for the erection of the pillar-boxes designated by the red dots; and also a statement shewing how I propose to collect the letters from them. The number actually required will be 67, but I think a few more may be imported to provide against accidents.

The Report does not show the map of Barbados, but the Statement is attached thereto and is as follows:

LOCALITIES FOR POST OFFICES AND PILLAR BOXES

Post Office, Bridgetown, No.1

12 Pillar Boxes.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| No. 1 Postman will collect | Beckwith Place, Fontabelle Road - (Corner of St. Leonards and Baxters Road |
| No. 2 Postman will collect | /Corner of White Park and Passage Road. |
| No. 3 Postman will collect | (Bay Street - Corner of Chelsea Lane
(Dalkeith Road-Near the Brigade
(Major's Quarters, St. Ann's |
| No. 4 Postman will collect | Roebuck Street, near the Gully. |
| No. 5 Postman will collect | Near Belmont - Enmore Corner |

ST. MICHAEL

Suburban Office A on the Two-Mile Hill Road

7. Pillar Boxes

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| No. 1 Postman will collect | (Hastings Village, Above Bishop's
(Court, Branch Roads near Wildey |
| No. 2 Postman will collect | (My Lords Hill, Government Road,
(near the Fountain |
| No. 3 Postman will collect | Foot of Maxwell's Hill, Adams Castle |

ST. MICHAEL

Suburban Office B on the Hothersal's Turning

4. Pillar Boxes

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| No. 1 Postman will collect | Road near Dayrells |
|----------------------------|--------------------|

No. 2 Postman will collect Eagle Hall Corner - Codrington Hill
No. 3 Postman will collect Near Glendairy

CHRIST CHURCH

Post Office at Mile Hill

5. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near Haggatts, near Eldridge
No. 2 Postman will collect Near St. Patrick's Chapel
No. 3 Postman will collect Near Boarded Hall Station
No. 4 Postman will collect Near St. David's Chapel

ST. PHILIP, No. 3

Post Office at Six Cross Roads

7. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect (Near Shrewsbury Chapel
(Near Sandy Hill
No. 2 Postman will collect Near Oldbury
No. 3 Postman will collect Near the Thicket, near Sandford
No. 4 Postman will collect Near Edgecombe, near St. Philip's Church

ST. GEORGE, No. 4

Post Office at Market Hill

3. Pillar Poxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Turn pike Head, near Buttals
No. 2 Postman will collect Near Woodland
No. 3 Postman will collect Near St. George's Church

ST. JOHN, No. 5

Post Office, near Mount Collins

4. Pillar Poxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near Mount Tabor
No. 2 Postman will collect Near Society's Chapel, near the Guinea
No. 3 Postman will collect Near New Castle

ST. JOSEPH, No. 6

Post Office, near Horse Hill

4. Pillar Poxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near Crab Hole
No. 2 Postman will collect Near Police Station, Bissex Hill
No. 3 Postman will collect Near Chimboroso and Mount Wilton
The Mail carrier from St. Joseph & St. George, Parris's Hill.

ST. JAMES, No. 7

Post Office, at Hole Town

4. Pillar Poxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near Prospect, Paynes Bay
No. 2 Postman will collect Reid's Bay
No. 3 Postman will collect Near Clintons

ST. THOMAS, No. 8

Post Office, near Police Station and Church

4. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near Walkes Spring, near Holy Innocents

No. 2 Postman will collect Near Dunscombe

No. 3 Postman will collect Near Mess House Hill

ST. ANDREW, No. 9

Post Office near Gregg Farm

4. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect Near the Church, near Bawdens

No. 2 Postman will collect Near Greenland

No. 3 Postman will collect Near St. Saviour's Chapel

ST. PETER, No. 10

Post Office at Speightstown

5. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect (School House by St. Nicholas
(Near Rose Hall

No. 2 Postman will collect Near Four Hills, near Whitehall

No. 3 Postman will collect On Road from Haymans to Black Bess

ST. LUCY, No. 11

Post Office near the Church

5. Pillar Boxes

No. 1 Postman will collect St. Clements

No. 2 Postman will collect Near the Hope, near Crab Hill

No. 3 Postman will collect Near Broomfield, near Colleton

C.TINLING, Col. Postmaster

The above excerpts from the Report clearly indicate that these were only proposals made by Mr. Tinling. These proposals were never implemented. In fact the erection of Iron pillar boxes did not commence until 1881, while the first Letter Receiving House to be closed was that at Fairy Valley, Christ Church kept by Mrs. Elizabeth Cobham which was closed from 26th February 1884. There was a gradual closure of these receiving houses although the last 7 of them were not closed until September 1, 1932.

Edmund A. Bayley

I apologise to the postal historians among our members for returning to the subject of watermark varieties, but a recent "find" is of rather greater significance than those previously reported. This is a copy of the 1912 ½d value (SG. 171) with watermark sideways. It is in fact curious that this particular set has hitherto yielded no watermark varieties when the following sets of 1916 and 1920 have so many.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have written to the editor or myself notifying additions to the listing in the Bulletin of September 1981. The listing

now proves to have been especially incomplete in the case of Barbados, so I list below those items which can be added to it, many of which were reported by Edmund Bayley.

Inverted: 91, 94, 106, 119, 124, 202, 209*, 211*

Inverted and reversed: 217

Reversed: 187, 201, 202, 209*, 211*, 220, 228

Sideways: 171

SG Nos. 1983 Part I. *Watermark already sideways.

Members who are interested in up-to-date listings of other colonies are welcome to apply to me.

C.A. Freeland

BERMUDA

Bermuda "Formula Cards"

M. H. Ludington, in his definitive book on Bermuda, quotes (P. 370) his predecessor H. R. Holmes as having acquired in about 1911 a mysterious variant of the "formula" cards of 1880. The card was in the halfpenny inland format, setting A, printed in dark blue on light buff card, but without adhesives.

Ludington goes on to pose a pretty puzzle which, to my knowledge, has yet to be solved; I quote:

"He (Holmes) suggested that it might be a proof, or more likely, a provisional issued in about March 1880, before the authorities decided to provide postcards with the adhesive already affixed. In view of the fact that no notices concerning the issuing of postcards appeared in the newspapers before June, and the wording of the notices when they did appear clearly states that these were the first issues of postcards, it would seem more likely that the postcard printed in blue was a proof. On the other hand, it is just possible that it was a provisional prepared early in 1885 on account of a shortage of ½d cards, but not issued owing to the arrival of the shipment of cards printed by De La Rue & Co. The reason for its changed colours could have been that the Bermuda Gazette had no pale blue card stock available, but only buff, and the ½d card could not be printed in the same colour as the 1½d. However, this theory seems very improbable."*

As far as I am aware, the twenty years since Ludington touched on the subject have produced no new and substantive information. Some five years ago, however, an item came my way which may have some bearing; it is a 1½d formula card, setting C printed in rose on buff card, (the printing used for the ½d provisional on 25 February 1885) and without adhesives affixed. If its issue can be linked with that of Holmes' card, then I would suggest that it marginally improves the chances of their both being proofs. Certainly, it is well known that the cards were never intended for sale without the adhesives.

Has any other example of a stampless card come to light, and can anyone shed light on this murky little mystery?

Michael Medlicott

*The Postal History and Stamps of Bermuda: M. H. Ludington pub, Quarterman Publications Inc.

BRITISH GUIANA

Overprinted Jubilee Issue of 1899 - A New Fact

It is accepted that there were two printings of the TWO CENTS on 15c in 1899. On 15th February there were issued 124,680 copies, but a further 6,000 were authorised for overprinting later in the year, and these were issued on 15th June.

There were a number of distinctive errors in the first printing, which are well-known, including the 'no stop' on No. 50 and the two raised spacing leads on numbers 25 and 26. It has been suggested by 'J.A.Y.' in the 'Stamp Lover' of Oct-Nov 1949 that the second printing was from the same setting as the first, but with certain corrections made, and I have seen sheets of both printings which bear this out.

The second printing includes the correction of both spacing leads on numbers 25 and 26.

I have recently acquired, however, hidden away in a large lot, a marginal pair which are clearly numbers 25 and 26. The very distinctive mark on No. 25 identifies it, but No. 26 is without any error. It would appear that in the course of making the corrections, the printer pulled one or more sheets to check his work, noticed the additional error on No. 25 and then corrected that before beginning his run, but putting the make-ready sheet back with the bulk.

The stamps are printed in sheets of 60, so only 100 sheets were printed. Under these circumstances it would seem likely that only very few of these would be pulled in the act of 'make ready'. I would be interested to hear if any of our members can report other such pairs, or whether in fact this one is unique.

D.M. Nathan

GUYANA PROVISIONALS 1981-2

Keen students of British West Indies material can hardly have failed to notice the flood of surcharged and overprinted stamps issued by Guyana recently.

A recent list provided by the Philatelic Bureau mentions no fewer than 249 different stamps in denominations from 10 cents to \$20.00. What is more surprising is the sheer number of stamps representing the same denomination.

There are 29 15c stamps and 32 \$1.10 stamps included in the list. Fifteen cents is the local rate and \$1.10 is the U.K. airmail rate.

Inevitably the question arises; how many of these issues have seen genuine commercial use? All the available evidence would indicate that although some have seen widespread use within Guyana others have seen negligible use and some have never been available over the Post Office counter.

The worst culprits in this respect are the O.P.S. overprinted stamps. No examples of any of the 21 different O.P.S. stamps has been seen non philatelically used.

The worst example of dealer 'mark up' occurs on the \$7.20 on 3c stamp where a £1.50 face value stamp is being sold by New Issue Services for over \$30.00 a copy.

I would be interested in hearing of any examples of commercial use of these stamps so that a clear picture can be obtained.

M.P. Nicholson

BRITISH WEST INDIES

B.W.I. MISCELLANY

1. Bahamas.

Further to Peter Jaffe's query in Bulletin No.111, I can report another example of late use of the Nassau N2 c.d.s. as a canceller, this time on an 1863 perf. 12½ 4d. (dated 1864).

2. Barbados.

One item in my collection defies classification according to Robert Ellis' list in Bulletin No.116. It is a 4d black and scarlet on yellow with a Category 1 overprint in the middle of the stamp. There are two separate strikes of the overprint, about ½mm apart, one in gold and the other in silver. Is this the gold-silver overprint listed as occurring at the top of the stamp? I may add that there are to my knowledge at least three major varieties of the Category 2 surcharge "One Penny" on 2½d blue (One Penny in one line in black). Two of these were referred to by Simon Goldblatt in Bulletin No.114; the third consists of a mis-setting of "One" with a large gap between the "n" and the "e".

3. St. Lucia.

Mr. Ruthven Ward poses a query in Bulletin No.115 about a "specimen" overprint on the 1d local War Tax SG.89. While I cannot be certain without seeing the stamp, this sounds very much like a receiving authority mark, about which I wrote in Bulletin No.111. For stamps with local overprints, of which this and other local War Tax issues are a good example, the printers would have no opportunity to apply their normal machine "specimen". But this is not to say that such stamps were not distributed through the U.P.U. - they were, but without a "specimen" defacement. Items of this nature can only be identified if the country to which the stamp was circulated applied its own defacement. So Mr. Ruthven Ward appears to have an unusual item. I may add that in the case of two B.W.I. countries at least, the authorities went to the trouble of applying a special specimen defacement to their local War Tax issues before sending them to the U.P.U. This accounts for the rather curious "specimens" on Dominica SG.56 and Grenada SG.109.

A question by A.D. Kinnon in the same bulletin with regard to an illustrated cancellation is more easily answered: it is a parcel or packet marking (see Ritchie page 66).

C.A. Freeland

GRENADA

Further to Bob Tower's query in Bulletin No.114 p.52 regarding a violet boxed SECOND POSTMAN mark. I too have an example of this mark on a cover sent from Earls Court, London to Mr. Justice Haycroft, Grenada, B.W.I. The dealer I bought it from seemed to think it was used on incoming mail, possibly from G.B. It was probably used for afternoon delivery, maybe on Consular or Government mail.

Norman Finnie



JAMAICA

Further to my note in Bulletin No.106 p.55 regarding the PORT ANTONIO postmark with a blotch over the date partly obscuring a figure 2.

I have now acquired two other copies and having made a tracing I am convinced that, in fact, there were two similar double-ring handstamps which for some reason were altered. This would explain the reply by A.W. Lewarn in Bulletin No.108 p.9.

Apart from the reversal of the day and month (i.e. 17 Apl - Apl. 17) the lettering of the town is longer and is several mm. larger. I should be grateful if other members

would check their copies to see that, in fact, there were two types in use. Of the six examples I have four are definitely one type and the other two quite different in that the blotch is a different shape.

Robert Swarbrick

ST. LUCIA

The literature on St. Lucia is thin, compared with that on St. Vincent and Grenada. No handbooks, four numbers of the St. Lucia Philatelist and a few articles. Yet the head shared with St. Vincent and copied from South Australia is beautiful, the colours attractive and the postmarks of interest. Did W.H. Holman accumulate too much and study too deeply?

My immediate concern is to ask if the Easton Figures of the De La Rue Printings (London Philatelist 815 November 1960, pages 217-218) require additions, beyond the insertion of 10,320 four pence on 16.5.76. The printers made an error and supplied and booked one shilling stamps in the colour of the four pence - note the economy of use of undenominated stamps as against undenominated dies and correct the one shilling list also by deletion.

The first impressions from the Perkins Bacon plates and the succeeding De La Rue prints can be tabulated:

	P.B.+ Nov 60	D.L.R. Jan 64	Next? DLR? Oct 64	Colour
(1d) Red	8,640	10,080	33,120	
(4d) Blue	3,120	3,120	2,640	
(6d) Green	4,080	5,520	5,520	

+ plus 240 of each held in London, the source of a 6 cancelled in bars for Hill family and friends and virtually all the unused blocks now extant.

Of my (1d) D.L.R. I have two distinct colours, which I do not think arise from ink mixing or subsequent changing.

Unused brownish-red	Normal 1	Reversed CC wmk. 2
Rose	“ 3	“ “ 6

Of my blue (4d) D.L.R. 3 are blue, one (maybe) grey blue, all normal CC.

Of my green (6d) D.L.R. which are reasonably uniform:

Normal 2	Reversed CC wmk. 3
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I have made no selection in acquisition. Other collectors may be able to add to these tiny totals.

I think either a small printing (or sending) has been missed or the October total included surplus and (perhaps) new colours. But the apparent scarcity of used against unused deserves some attention, particularly following the spectacular results of Perkins Bacon retention of three sheets in total. What is E.D.K. for (1d) black?

Peter Jaffe

ST. VINCENT

I have a copy of the 1/- orange of 1891, bearing a light but clear vertical oval obliteration "A26" with 3 thick bars, very much like the right half of the Malta duplex shown as type 11 on page GB54 of SG Catalogue Part I.

If this mark is genuine, the stamp would appear to have been used in Gibraltar, which I find it hard to believe. If it is not, why should such an unlikely mark have been chosen for forgery?

Can any member throw any light on the matter, please?

K. Rex Haywood

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO 'THE OVERPRINTED STAMPS WAR TAX'

The local newspaper Port of Spain Gazette of March 15th 1917 carried the following notice.

WAR TAX STAMPS Regulations made by the Governor under section 9 of ordinance 197 (The Post Office ordinance).

LETTER POST.

- 1 On and after April 2nd 1917, the prepaid rate of inland postage will be as follows:-

Not exceeding 1oz in weight 1d with an additional War Tax stamp of 1d.

- 2 A letter posted unpaid is chargeable on delivery with double postage and a double War Tax stamp; a letter insufficiently paid and without the War Tax stamp with double the deficiency and double the War Tax stamp, and a letter partially prepaid with War Tax stamp affixed is chargeable with double the deficiency. The sender is legally liable for the charges.
- 3 Regulation Nos 5 and 6 of the Postal Regulations made by the Governor on the 16th day of September 1914 and approved in the Legislative Council on the 30th day of October 1914, are repealed as from the said 2nd day of April 1917.

Made by the Governor this 28th day of February 1917.

By command
W. M. Gordon
Acting Colonial Secretary

Approved by the Legislative Council on the Ninth day of March 1917.

In the Port of Spain Gazette of March 28th there appeared a news item which said in part "that these stamps will be on sale at various Post Offices in the Colony from tomorrow March 29th ..."

This explains why the stamps overprinted locally from the first Lithographic stone may

be found with handstamped dates of cancellation prior to the Catalogue's date given as the 2nd April.

1st Lithographic stone - 29th March 1917 local overprint War Tax 240,000 stamps, sold out at G.P.O. within 3 weeks of being placed on sale.

Overprint found on issues of the 4th consignment bright scarlet thin paper and the 7th consignment red thick paper.

Halfpenny War Tax stamps.

On April 3rd, and again on April 26th, concern was expressed in the newspaper that no arrangements had been made for the taxation of packages and postcards. As a result the Government on May 3rd 1917 amended the regulations to introduce the use of ½d War Tax stamps for use on postcards and commercial papers.

Regulations Nos 13, 14 and 17 were repealed effectively from May 10th 1917.

2nd Lithographic stone - 7th May 1917 ½d local overprint War Tax 120,000 stamps.

10th May 1917 1d 240,000 printed found on issues of the 4th consignment bright scarlet thin paper and the 7th consignment red thick paper.

3rd Lithographic stone - 21st June 1917 local overprint War Tax 120,000 printed. Sold out at the G.P.O. within five days of being placed on sale.

23rd June 1917 1d 240,000 printed from the 7th consignment red and 8th consignment bright scarlet thick papers.

4th Lithographic stone - 21st July 1917 ½d local overprint War Tax 120,000 printed.

July - September 1d 234,000 printed from the 7th and 8th consignments.

5th Lithographic stone - 1st September 1917 ½d local overprint War Tax 120,000 printed.

1d 6,000 printed on stamps from the 8th consignment bright scarlet thick paper.

A postmaster's reply to a Trinidad Philatelist's enquiry gave,

"I have learnt that one package (6,000) stamps, was overprinted from the same stone as the halfpenny. This I understand was due to the fact that the July stone gave out before the printing operation was complete and the printers used for the remainder a newly prepared stone from which the ½d stamps were afterwards printed. The latter setting is in the same type, but shows the letter and words differently spaced".

POSTMASTER

6th Lithographic stone - 31st October 1917 1d local overprint War Tax 240,000 stamps printed from the 7th and 8th consignments.

7th Lithographic stone - 9th December 1917 1d local overprint War Tax 240,000 stamps printed on stamps from the 8th consignment.

8th Lithographic stone - it appears the forme from which the 1918-19 War Tax overprint type was made was more durable, subject to repairs, than any of the previous overprint types.

The overprint may be found on stamps from consignments 7 red, 8 bright scarlet, 9 carmine basic issue key plate '1' and the rose stamps printed from Key plate '2' of the 10th consignment.

At a Legislative Council meeting on the 6th December 1919 The War Tax stamp was abolished from the 1st day of January 1920. The balance of the credit of the War Tax account at the 31st December was contributed to the War Memorial Fund.

The Postmaster General revealed that from their inception the stamps had yielded £15,680 and a further £600 would have accrued at the 31st December.

It would appear from the estimated £16,280 yielded that to balance the War Tax account an estimate of the 8th War Tax type of the ½d and 1d stamps may be derived. I estimate that the quantity of the ½d overprinted War Tax was 480,000 and six printings of the 1d value at 240,000 each.

These quantities would appear to explain the large numbers of unused stamps which exist.

Invalidation of War Tax stamps.

Trinidad Guardian Wednesday September 20th 1939.

RED CROSS AND WAR STAMPS NOT VALID.

Trinidad halfpenny 'Red Cross' and 'War Tax' postage stamps overprinted during the last war will no longer be valid, according to a notice issued by the Hon'ble John Huggins, Colonial Secretary, yesterday.

Notice which is retrospective from August 31st is as follows:

"It is notified for general information that as from 31st August 1939 Those Trinidad & Tobago Halfpenny stamps which were overprinted for either Red Cross or War Tax purposes during the War of 1914-18 will no longer be valid for franking packets."

John De Vries

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Australian Commonwealth Specialist Catalogue 35th Edition.

T.P.S. Bulletin No. 5 Trinidad & Tobago Earlies 'An Attempt at Specialisation' by R. M. Leotaud.

T.P.S. Bulletin No. 32 The 1917-18 War stamps 'Some little known facts' by Charles Maynard.

The War Issues of Trinidad & Tobago the West End Philatelist (June 1917 - February 1918).

The Jamaican Philatelist circa 1934 Trinidad & Tobago by Harry E. Huber.

1983 AUCTION REPORT

Out of 450 lots, almost three quarters were sold this year, which suggests that we are climbing away from recession in the world of philately. Though the unsold material included quite a number of higher-priced single items and specimen sets, there was a broader spread than in previous years, with a range of specialised items among them. Probably we have been steadily supplying the needs of our handful of specialists in each of the many different categories of B.W.I. collecting, so that they can become increasingly selective; yet it was, for instance, unexpected to have a Trinidad cover bearing SG 116 left on our hands. This short-lived stamp is difficult to find even off cover.

The sale total of £4,873.25 represented an uplift of about 5% over valuation for the lots which found a buyer, with the main increase coming - as in previous years - in Bermuda numeral cancellations and Trinidad classic material. In neither case will the discriminating collector be surprised. Even at present levels, good quality B.W.I. cancellations are bargain-basement purchases, when compared with high-flying territories in other parts of the world; while Trinidad is such an appealing country to collect that one cannot conceive it will be possible for very much longer, to acquire the early material at its present modest proportion of catalogue price.

There was good competition between book bidders and bidders in the room: in neither category did the would-be buyers have things all their own way. Nevertheless, most postal buyers will have found a comfortable margin between actual realisations and their intended maximum bids: in one case, where a lot was purchased for £6, we had authority to go to £25.

The most popular lot was the Barbados bootheel numerals on SG 91, where eight book bidders were pipped at the post, when the item reached £33 against an estimated £15. It was one of about seven lots to go at over double the valuation; and we need hardly add, the fewer lots that do so, the better we feel the estimation has been carried out. Most highly-priced, at £110, was the Tobago ½d on 4d fiscal with deformed 'CE'. It could easily have fetched more, to judge by the expression of the unsuccessful room bidder. It was probably a bargain, as certainly was the St. Vincent c.d.s. ascribed to Peruvian Vale, which sold in the room at a modest £12. On the whole, though, few lots call for individual comment. It was a year in which most sellers should be satisfied, and most purchasers content, while the circle gains what has become its customary healthy increment to revenue for the year. One can hardly seek for more than that.

The better viewing facilities this year (by courtesy of Michael Hamilton) were much appreciated by those who took advantage of them. At least three members, for example, revised upwards their assessment of lot 275 (a Leeward's cover from Dominica) when its merits were seen in the flesh; and our most off-beat item (the commemorative Wedgwood plate from Bermuda) attracted a lot of interest, too. One enthusiast for these islands thought our estimate way over the top; but there were three book bidders who all reckoned £50 appropriate and actual realisation was £56. We were left wondering to ourselves what valuation would have had to be put on a commemorative stamp of that size!

The auction lasted for 2½ hours. It closed with the usual vote of thanks to the auction team, not forgetting Steve Papworth, who took time off from his duties as treasurer and librarian, and his other philatelic commitments, to deal with printing of the sale catalogue.

Realisations as under (omitting items unsold):-

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
1	7.00	3	36.00	4	19.00	6	36.00	9	17.00	10	15.00
12	8.00	13	13.00	14	4.75	15	7.00	18	12.00	19	4.00
20	3.00	21	15.00	25	8.00	27	5.00	31	4.25	33	11.50
34	14.50	35	15.50	36	16.50	39	9.00	41	16.00	42	14.00
43	22.00	44	46.00	45	11.50	46	16.50	47	16.50	48	6.00
50	9.50	51	4.00	54	17.00	55	7.50	56	18.00	57	5.25
58	7.50	59	13.00	60	7.50	61	17.00	62	5.25	63	10.50
65	5.25	66	11.00	67	12.50	68	5.25	69	8.50	70	18.00
71	26.00	72	5.00	74	8.50	76	10.50	77	33.00	78	13.00
79	10.00	80	6.50	81	52.00	82	16.50	83	8.50	85	27.00
86	15.50	87	15.50	88	4.50	89	21.00	90	9.00	91	12.00
96	26.00	97	16.00	98	3.25	99	9.00	100	16.50	101	8.00
104	5.00	105	14.00	106	7.50	107	7.00	109	26.00	114	9.50
115	9.50	116	9.00	117	9.00	118	44.00	120	3.00	122	56.00
123	34.00	124	27.00	125	46.00	126	37.00	127	36.00	128	46.00
129	13.00	130	42.00	131	34.00	132	15.50	133	17.50	134	7.00
135	30.00	136	54.00	137	14.50	139	21.00	140	10.50	141	9.50
142	6.50	143	6.00	144	7.00	146	12.50	147	28.00	148	80.00*
149	7.50	150	16.50	152	7.00	153	6.50	154	7.50	155	3.75
156	4.75	157	13.00	158	12.50	159	12.00	161	11.00	164	17.00
168	2.75	172	15.50	173	7.00	174	3.00	175	54.00	177	3.00
178	2.75	179	4.25	181	6.00	182	7.50	185	15.00	186	14.00
188	2.50	189	32.00	193	2.75	194	9.00	195	2.25	198	3.25
200	12.00	201	9.00	202	2.00	203	30.00	204	30.00	206	3.75
208	11.50	215	5.25	216	5.50	218	12.00	224	5.00	225	11.00
227	30.00	229	9.00	234	34.00	236	6.00	237	4.00	238	4.50
239	7.50	240	6.50	242	8.00	243	4.75	244	36.00	245	46.00
246	12.00	247	2.00	248	5.00	249	5.25	250	20.00	251	9.00
252	6.00	253	7.00	254	6.00	255	7.50	257	7.00	259	4.50
260	3.00	263	7.00	264	7.00	265	15.00	266	15.50	267	7.00
268	15.50	269	4.00	270	3.00	271	9.00	272	6.50	273	8.00
274	5.50	275	50.00	276	4.50	277	9.50	279	10.00	280	18.00
281	2.00	282	3.00	284	17.00	285	8.00	286	23.00	289	95.00
293	26.00	294	21.00	295	23.00	296	37.00	297	14.00	299	17.00
300	18.00	301	3.50	302	20.00	304	3.75	305	17.50	307	3.00

308	14.00	309	10.50	311	10.50	313	6.00	316	5.50	317	14.00
319	4.50	320	5.00	321	5.00	324	7.50	325	2.50	326	12.00
327	6.50	329	8.00	330	4.50	332	4.75	334	14.00	335	12.00
336	37.00	337	8.00	339	15.50	340	6.00	341	5.25	342	34.00
343	13.50	344	25.00	345	3.00	347	11.00	348	32.00	349	5.00
351	9.00	352	12.50	353	7.50	354	4.50	355	12.00	356	9.00
357	8.50	360	15.00	360A	14.00	362	26.00	363	22.00	364	5.25
365	9.00	366	7.00	367	3.50	368	6.50	369	2.00	370	6.00
371	8.50	372	110.00	373	4.25	374	36.00	376	13.00	377	16.00
379	13.00	381	8.00	382	20.00	384	10.00	386	13.00	387	46.00
388	14.00	389	75.00	390	70.00	391	70.00	392	28.00	393	32.00
394	15.50	395	19.00	397	11.50	398	7.00	399	20.00	400	35.00
401	16.00	402	17.00	405	32.00	406	26.00	407	14.50	408	21.00
409	7.00	410	7.50	411	12.00	412	23.00	413	8.50	415	3.00
416	12.00	417	4.75	418	4.50	419	4.50	420	12.00	421	4.50
423	23.00	424	46.00	425	50.00	427	11.50	428	13.00	429	6.50
430	7.00	431	7.00	434	20.00	435	6.50	435A	6.00	436	4.50
436A	4.25	437	6.50	438	8.50	439	8.00	440	56.00	441	10.50
443	19.00	444	9.00	446	9.00	448	7.50				

* (Please note, I have retained this 'sale', but omitted lot 230 at the same price). (Lot 84 was withdrawn, 'A' numbers were duplicate lots, lot 448 was an additional literature lot).

MEMBERS SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisement rates 5p per word; minimum charge 50p. Copy to the Editor six weeks before publication.

CHARLES FREELAND is interested in exchanging or buying old auction catalogues containing specialised B.W.I. material; he particularly requires CHARLTON-HENRY, and can offer CASPARY, AMUNDSEN, URWICK etc. He is also looking for prices realised of certain catalogues, and "Specimen" multiples. (Obere Batterieweg 45, 4059 Basel, Switzerland)

NEWS ROUNDUP

The Nevis Historical and Conservation Society has published a booklet "Chronology of Events on and Effecting the Island of Nevis". Not philatelic but the 9 pages make interesting reading. Copies are available from the Nevis Philatelic Bureau, Head Post Office, Nevis at E.C.\$2.00 plus E.C. \$1.65 postage and packing. A copy is held in the Library.

May we offer our congratulations to Stanley Sugarman for an outstanding display of "The Trials, Proofs and Stamps of Dominica B.W.I." and for his award of a Gold Medal and The Stampex Silver Mailcoach Trophy for the best entry at "Stampex 1983".

May we also offer congratulations to the following for their awards at this year's Stampex:

"Seagull" (who ever he or she may be). Gold Medal and the B.C.P.S.G. Award for an outstanding entry of B.W.I.

B.E. Johnson. Silver Gilt Medal and Silver Medal.

B.B. Benwell.	Silver Medal
R.C.A. Payne.	Silver Medal
M.D. Watts.	Silver Medal
M.R. Hewlett.	Bronze Silver Medal
A.J. Branston.	Bronze Medal
P.H. Williams.	Bronze Medal
Roses C.P.S.	Bronze Medal (Literature)

NEW MEMBERS

ABBOTT, Peter, 29 Stansty Rd., Wrexham, Clwyd, LL11 2HR

Interest: Postal History.

ATKINSON, Bryan Dryden, 1 River Grove Park, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 1HU.

Interest: St. Vincent.

FRENCH, John, 89 Quinton Lane, Quinton, Birmingham, B32 2TT.

Interest: Bermuda.

HINNEBURG-MURPHY, Colm Thomas, Myrtleville, Highfield Avenue, College Rd., Cork, Ireland.

Interest: Tobago, Trinidad.

OLDHAM, John E., 743 Clarkson Rd. South, Mississauga, Ontario, L5J 2V1, Canada.

Interest: Bahamas.

ROBERTS, Miss Evelyn Joan, 16 Brooklyn Close, Woking, Surrey, GU22 7TH

Interest: St. Vincent.

VANN, Brian J., 15 Ufton Crescent, Solihull, W. Midlands, B90 3RX

Interest: Barbados and St. Vincent.

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PECK, S.C., 43 Normandy Crescent, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex C012 4LD.

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Bulletins

Copies of the Bulletin from No.69 (June 1971) onwards, and some earlier issues are available.

Price, per copy, inclusive of post and packing:-

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Binders

'Cordex' Instantaneous Self-Binders, each capable of holding 20 issues of the Bulletin, hard covers, spine entitled in gold.

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